

literally for the education of our children on the property tax which weighs very heavily on many property taxpayers, homeowners, urban dwellers, farmers and the like, there comes a time when people think maybe the system of taxation itself is defective and should be judicially challenged. Under existing constitutional language a judicial challenge is difficult, however, out of the committee amendments picking up language from Constitutions of other states where successful challenges to the method of financing schools have obtained, that language placed in our Constitution gives the court processes and unhappy taxpayers an opportunity to challenge school finance and truly it should be something we welcome because as you and I well know sometimes in this body we reach such a snafu that we just can't accomplish that which all of us know needs to be done and it takes a little outside push to get it done and this is a very healthy committee amendment. It will be a healthy constitutional change and in the event we truly aren't able to arrive at a meeting of minds to get something done, then we will get a little judicial prodding and I am sure that that prodding will help us work out our differences and lay to rest for a decade the method of financing our schools. I urge the committee amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I will be very happy to define the vagaries that Senator Murphy alluded to. Thorough is not a vague term. Thorough means in terms of education now, that there shall be programs which are adequate to meet the needs of students. I tried to put this into a role and mission statement in education this year but it wasn't forthcoming from the committee. Senator Johnson was absolutely correct. It is obvious as long as we have a statement in the Constitution like the Platte River, a mile wide and an inch deep, that you are never going to be able to go to court to find out what kind of education we ought to offer. We say students are entitled to a free public education but we don't define it and no one else is. Senator Carsten and I and Senator Warner and others have been sort of tired of talking about adequate school finance and I want to tell you, right now I want to poll the people. I want to see how they want to finance public education because I'm getting tired of being whipping boy like we were this morning and like we have been in the past several years by petitions and other methods. So it is time I think we put it to the people and say how do you want to finance public education? Now as far as efficient, that provides for an accountability system, accountable, a system of education that is accountable. Those terms in